Supply of water for irrigation for the Sholavaram tank.

* 1144-A Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received communications by telegram from the ryots of Sholavaram and the surrounding villages in the Chingleput district, requesting that water should be supplied to their lands from the Sholavaram tank;

(*b*) whether the Government are aware that lands under the Sholavaram tank, to the extent of about 3,000 acres are now under paddy cultivation and are badly in need of water;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that water is not allowed to the lands from the Sholavaram tank;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that there is now 5 feet of water in the Sholavaram tank over the sill level and that 2 feet of water will suffice for the lands for two months;

(*e*) whether the Government are considering the necessity of directing the letting of water from the tank to the lands; and

(*f*) if the answer to (*e*) be in the negative, whether the Government are prepared to compensate the ryots for loss of crops?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The Collector of Chingleput reports that the approximate area of paddy cultivation under the Sholavaram tank is 2,900 acres; and that the crops are in need of water.

(*c*) Yes; till 15th December 1928 under the existing rules.

(*d*) The water level of the tank on 27th November 1928 was 2·75 feet above sill level. At 100 duty the water in the tank was sufficient for 2,900 acres for one month.

(*e*) & (*f*) Under the orders of Government the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) instructed the Executive Engineer, Chingleput division, on 28th November 1928 to issue water for irrigation under the Sholavaram tank.

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA:—"May I know, Sir, why this water was issued on the 28th November, and also whether the Government received any communication from the Commissioner of the Corporation of Madras protesting against this issue of water on the 28th November?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—"The water was issued to benefit the crops and so far as I am aware, no such communication as the hon. Member refers to was received."

Localizing of certain lands in Kistna Western delta for inclusion under short crop irrigation.

* 1145 Q.—The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware that the Public Works Department authorities are localizing certain lands in Kistna Western delta, for inclusion under short crop irrigation; and

(*b*) if so, what are the principles guiding them in their classification?

29th January 1929]

A.—(a) Subject to the approval of the proposal by the Finance Committee and to the vote of the Legislative Council it is proposed to sanction from 1st April 1929 a special division with two subdivisions to localize the proposed 'short crop' areas in the Kistna Eastern and Western deltas.

(b) The principles on which the localization will be made are that the areas should be commandable with the existing full supply level of the canals, that the areas should be unconnected with the existing wet ayacut of the delta and that they should as far as possible be near the head of the delta.

Alleged insufficiency of water in the Kistna Eastern delta.

*1146 Q.—The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the insufficiency of water in Kistna Eastern delta is the reason adduced by the Public Works Department for including under short crop irrigation several lands surrounded by wet cultivation in the ayacut of the delta;

(b) if so, whether the supply in the Eastern delta has been gauged after the elevated shutters on the Kistna anicut have been installed;

(c) what kind of distribution arrangements have been made to regulate the supply;

(d) whether correct lists of distribution pipes and ayacut registers of lands as irrigated at present are maintained with appropriate delta maps; and

(e) whether they are kept accessible to the interested public and if not why not?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The supply in the main canal is being gauged.

(c) The regulation of the supply in the Kistna Eastern delta is by Kistna Eastern division. Main canal head sluice at Bezwada and by the several locks, lockweirs, canal and channel head sluices and other masonry works throughout the delta.

(d) Correct lists of distribution pipes are maintained for all piped channels. Ayacut registers and ayacut maps have been prepared for all lands irrigated at present. All these are brought up to date as occasion requires.

(e) In 1925 orders were issued that pipe lists giving information on the following points should be supplied to the village karnams:—

(i) Serial number of pipe.

(ii) Pipe mileage.

(iii) Right or left bank.

(iv) Survey number in which the pipe is situated.

(v) Survey numbers of the fields commanded by the pipe.